

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023- 7:00 P.M.**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 7:00pm by Mayor Cedar in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, Michigan, 48079.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

PRESENT: Mayor Cedar, Members Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz

ABSENT: Member Watt (excused)

ADMINISTRATION: Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent; James T. Downey, Joachim, Clemons, Kane & Downey; Kevin Markel, DPW; Annette Sturdy; City Clerk

AUDIENCE: There were 7 people in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA-** LaPorte moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda items A. and B. as presented.

- A. City Council Minutes of September 18, 2023 Special & Regular Meetings: Approved
- B. Golf Commission Minutes of August 8, 2023 Meeting: Received

**PROCLAMATION**

United in Purpose for United Way of St. Clair County-Mayor Cedar proclaimed Fall 2023 as United Way of St. Clair County months.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Ordinance Introduction (2023-04) Cats- **TO AMEND CHAPTER 10 “ANIMALS,” BY REVISING ARTICLE I, SECTION 4 “LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OF DOGS” TO ADD “CATS “ AND ADDING ARTICLE III “CATS.” THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR ORDAINS: SECTION 1.AMENDMENT.** Chapter 10 of the City Code is hereby amended to read as follows: **ARTICLE I.—IN GENERAL. Sec. 10-4—LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OF DOGS AND CATS** (a) No person who resides within the city shall own, possess, shelter, harbor, keep, or have custody of more than three dogs and ~~or~~ **three** cats, which are over six months old on the same premises, except where a person has obtained a kennel license from the state as provided for in Act. No. 339 of Public Acts of 1919, as amended, and conforms to all applicable zoning regulations of the city. (b) Enforcement of subsection (a) shall not apply to any animals registered pursuant to Section 10-29 on, or before, October 1, 2016.**ARTICLE III.--CATS** Sec. 10-36. - Keeping or harboring cat, interpretation. Any person allowing any cat habitually to remain and to be lodged or fed at his house, store building, enclosure or premises shall be considered as harboring or keeping the cat within the meaning of this article. Sec. 10-37. - Officers designated for enforcement of article; investigation of complaints.All members of the city police force and sworn officers, are charged with the enforcement of this article. It shall be the duty of the police officers to investigate complaints made and to determine whether or not such complaints are founded upon fact. Sec. 10-38. - Penalty for violations of article. A violation of this article shall be a misdemeanor as set forth by [section 1-12](#)(b) of the City Code; however, in the discretion of the investigating officer, a first offense under this article may be deemed a municipal civil infraction. Sec. 10-39. - Running at-large prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person owning, possessing or harboring any cat to allow or permit such cat to run at-large

within the limits of the city Sec. 10-40. - Certain duties imposed on owner. (a) No person owning or having custody or control of a cat shall knowingly, or through failure to exercise due care or control, permit the cat to defecate on public property or on private property without the consent of the property owner or occupant thereof. (b) A person owning or having custody or control of a cat shall be responsible for the removal of any excrement eliminated by such cat on public property or private property of another without consent of the property owner or occupant thereof, and it shall be a violation of this section for the person owning or having custody or control of the cat to fail to remove or provide for the removal in a sanitary manner of such excrement before taking the cat from the immediate area where such excretion occurred. **SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.**This Ordinance and each of the various parts, sections, subsections, sentences, phrases, and clauses hereof are declared to be severable. If any part, section, subsection, sentence, phrase, or clause is determined to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is hereby provided that the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect. **SECTION 3. REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**Any and all Ordinances of the City of St. Clair or any parts or provisions thereof, to the extent that they are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of the within Ordinance, are hereby expressly repealed. **SECTION 4.RATIFICATION.** All other provisions of the code of Ordinances of the City of St. Clair, Michigan except as herein modified or amended are hereby expressly ratified and affirmed. **SECTION 5. PUBLICATION.** This Ordinance shall be published in accordance with the terms, provisions, and requirements of the City Charter of the City of St. Clair, Michigan, and in accordance with and to the extent required by the statutes of the State of Michigan. **SECTION 6.EFFECTIVE DATE.**This Ordinance shall take immediate effect upon publication in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the City Charter of the City of St. Clair.

Volz moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to introduce with amendments with the deletion of the word "or" in Sec. 10-4 (second sentence) and to include the allowance of 3 dogs and 3 cats for a total of 6 animals.

Any ownership of dogs or cats already in place prior to Ordinance adoption is allowable.

Ayes: LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Gottler, Kuffa, Cedar

Nays: None

### **ORDINANCE DECLARED INTRODUCED**

### **REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**City Superintendent** – Road and project updates included the addition of gravel along Carney Drive shoulders and statement that Clinton Ave is receiving a temporary sidewalk during the bikepath construction. Spotlight given to DPW and SCPD for sidewalk work and recent professionalism, respectively. Per a reference guide that was distributed to Council, the general possible uses for ARPA funds were reiterated. Infrastructure is one of the acceptable uses. Mayor Cedar stated his recommendation for the entire amount of ARPA funds to go toward the current Water Treatment Plant project. No other recommendations were stated. Administration will now obligate the full amount of ARPA funds as recommended prior to the State deadline to receive the 7% return, 2% of that return needs to be put towards public safety. The allocation of the remaining incentive funding was not discussed.

**City Attorney**- None

**City Departments**- Clerk Report: Election Commission approved the Early Voting Plan for 1 Early Voting Site located in the lower level of City Hall as the location for all 9 days of EV. Early voting will begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday prior to election day and conclude the Sunday prior to election day. Hours will be from 7:30am-4:30pm.

**Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative**- None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – September 21 & September 27, 2023**

Check register listing the bills for the period ending September 21, 2023 (check numbers 57688-57738) in the amount of \$2,733,932.80, for the period ending September 27, 2023 (check numbers 57739-57765) in the amount of \$47,989.99 and credit card register were presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of September 21 & September 27, 2023 Claims and Accounts as presented.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS –** Questions asked to clarify why a portion of Pine was paved and to consider paving Oak.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS –** M-29 will have single lane closures from Clinton to Bree October 9-31 for road and CSX railroad repair. The northbound detour will be Bree to St. Clair Highway to King to Fred Moore.

**ADJOURNMENT** at 7:37pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor